

## Message Text

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42

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 SSO-00 EB-07

MC-02 INR-07 INRE-00 EUR-12 /063 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:PDMOLINEAUX:AJ

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

PM/SAS:DKEENE(INFO)

----- 021540

O R 181437Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222474

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS, MU, US

SUBJECT: SAF ARMS PROCUREMENT - M-203 GRENADE LAUNCHERS

REF: A. MUSCAT 1022; B. MUSCAT 1041

1. UPON RECEIPT REFTEL A, DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY INSTIGATED EFFORT OBTAINED US ARMY AGREEMENT DEFER RECEIPT OF ITS OWN SHIPMENTS OF M-203'S, SO THAT OMANI ORDER MAY BE FILLED PROMPTLY. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MEMORANDUM FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT OF ARMY SEPTEMBER 15. WE EXPECT ACTION NOT LATER THAN END OF THIS WEEK. WE CANNOT PREJUDGE DEPARTMENT OF ARMY RESPONSE, HOWEVER, FYI, WE EXPECT ARMY WILL APPROVE EARLY RELEASE OF WEAPONS TO OMAN END FYI. WILL ADVISE.

2. SECOND PROBLEM IS TRANSPORTATION. IF IN EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT (REFTEL B) USG SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT INFLUENCE SAF-KENDALL RELATIONSHIP, EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT DEPARTMENT UNABLE PLAY EFFECTIVE ROLE IN EXPEDITING SHIPMENT. WHEREAS DEPARTMENT CAN PRESSURE COLT ON TRANSACTION, IT IS NOT IN POSITION DO SAME WITH BRITISH FIRM KENDALL,  
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WHICH DOES NOT EVEN HAVE REPRESENTATIVE IN UNITED STATES AND

DOES NOT APPEAR TO UNDERSTAND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMERCIAL AND FMS TRANSACTIONS. IF COMMANDER SAF WANTS KENDALL TO PLAY A ROLE, THEN HE SHOULD TELL COMPANY TO GET WITH IT.

3. AS OF SEPT 17 KENDALL HAD NOT REPEAT NOT CONTACTED

ARMAMENTS COMMAND AT ROCK ISLAND TO ARRANGE TRANSPORT OF M-203 AMMUNITION. (DA MSG 131555Z AUG, IN RESPONSE TO EARLIER EMBASSY REQUEST, GAVE NAME OF MR. AL TAYLOR, TELEPHONE (309) 794-6426/5824 AS CONTACT FOR KENDALL IN ARMAMENTS COMMAND TO ARRANGE TRANSFER OF AMMUNITION).

4. EMBASSY MAY ADVISE GEN. PERKINS THAT USG IS WORKING INTENSIVELY ON PROBLEM OF AVAILABILITY OF RIFLES AND GRENADE LAUNCHERS AND WILL OFFER DEFINITIVE RESPONSE IN FEW DAYS.

5. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO ADVISE GEN. PERKINS THAT, BEYOND AVAILABILITY PROBLEM, THERE IS TRANSPORT PROBLEM. KENDALL HAS NOT REPEAT NOT CONTACTED US ARMY TO ARRANGE TRANSPORT OF AMMUNITION FROM CONUS REPEAT CONUS AIR TERMINAL OR TO WORK OUT PROBLEMS WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED WHEN DEALING WITH THIRD-COUNTRY AGENT AND TRANSSHIPMENT VIA THIRD COUNTRY. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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